

(6) CLAIMS

(1) A portable and manually operable magnetic or other field indicating device for indicating the existence of a field of magnetism or other field at least perceived by the device, once in use, to be generally static comprising

5 at least one metallic rod pointer that is mounted to be at least partly circumferentially freely pivotable about while extending at least substantially radially with respect to an axis of swivelling that, in turn, extends along a handle to which the pointer is pivotally mounted, at least once the device is ready for use enabling the circumferentially free swivellable displacement of the pointer relative to the handle to the extent permitted, and

10 a metallic slider, not necessarily being of the same metal as the pointer, that manually displaceably though against free sliding fits the rod pointer and that is used to accommodate the measurement of a variety of magnetic field situations within the ability of the device even if requiring establishing it by trial and error,

the device when operatively used once the slider has been appropriately positioned, being,

15 held with the axis of swivelling extending at least substantially upright resulting in the pointer being displaceable in an at least substantially horizontal plane with the pointer taking in a specific stance, in the appropriate case becoming displaced thereto, once an appropriate magnetic field is perceived by the device.

(2) A device as claimed in claim 1 that is fitted with a protractor that is suitably situated

20 with respect to the pointer to cause it to be swivelled over the graduations of the protractor, whereby the position of the pointer relative to the graduations, as being indicative of a characteristic of a magnetic field, is thus establishable.

(3) A device as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 that includes a spirit level arranged to indicate the verticality of the axis of swivelling of the pointer once the device is in use.

25 (4) A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims that includes a compass by means of which the attitude of the device relative to the earth's magnetic north is determinable.

(5) A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the metallic slider is of at least bi- if not multi-metallic composition.

(6) A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims that includes restraining means for frictionally restraining displacement of the pointer about its pivotal axis that is at least employable to lock the pointer in a specific position once in use.

(7) A device as claimed in claim 6 in which the restraining means is adjustable to adjust the restraining action thereof.

(8) A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the pointer is formed with an inner end section that extends at least substantially transverse with its rectilinearly and radially extending pointing section with the inner end section thus extending along the axis of swivelling of the pointer and about which the pointing section is radially displaceable.

(9) A device as claimed in claim 8 in which the inner end section of the pointer is journaled in a bore in the handle.

(10) A device as claimed in claim 10 in which the transition between the radially extending pointing section and the inner end section of the pointer extends through a bow thereby promoting the flexibility of the radially extending pointing section.

(11) A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims that includes sensing means for sensorially perceiving the angular position of the rod relative to the handle and indicating means, tying in with the sensing means, to provide an indication of the position of the arm relative to the handle.

(12) A device as claimed in claim 11 in which the sensing means is arranged to provide an output in the form of an electric signal corresponding with the position of the arm relative to the handle.

(13) A device as claimed in claim 12 in which the sensing means is in the form of a rheostat incorporating a resistance element and a wiper arm co-operating sweeping fashion with the resistance element while being connected to move in unison with the swivelling action of the pointer, the rheostat being suitably serially interspaced along the circuitry to cause the extent of the flow of current via the indicating means, as also electrically activatable and forming part of the circuitry once the circuitry is activated from a constant source of electrical power forming part of the circuitry, as being dependent on

the extent of swivelling of the pointer, to be reflected in the perceivable output from the indicating means.

(14) A device as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 13 in which the indicating means is in the form of at least one of an electric lamp, acoustic signalling means and a digital display,
5 the latter being arranged to give a digital indication of the angular position of the pointer arm.

(15) A device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims that incorporates measuring means for measuring its elevation above a basis along which it is used.